

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Michelle Cayouette

Application No.: 10/530,643

Confirmation No.: 7609

Filed: April 7, 2006

Art Unit: 1652

For: PROTEASES, NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING
THEM AND METHODS FOR MAKING AND
USING THEM

Examiner: Sheridan Swope

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – TC 1600

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Communication mailed May 19, 2009, a Final Office Action (“the OA”); Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and consideration of the remarks set forth herein.

An expedited response under 37 CFR 1.116 was initially due July 19, 2009, which fell on a Sunday. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 15 of this paper.

The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- Transmittal Letter